The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industry, in the trade union movements, and contains other information of trial, legislative, and judicial fields.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 26, 1915, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 12, 1918.

Samuel Gompers said:
The trades unions should extend their thoughts and actions more largely into the sphere and affairs of government.

WHOLE NO. 2064 | WILLIAM GREEN, *President* | WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1950 | GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* | VOL. 40, NO. 44

Make Certain Your Vote Counts on November 7th

Meany Warns Against Nov. 7 Complacency

By GEORGE MEANY
Secretary-Treasurer, American Federation of Labor

Washington.—Four years ago, election day came on the heels of final victory in World War II and found the American people too overjoyed by the end of hostilities to bother voting.

Only one-third of the qualified voters actually cast their ballots.

The result was the election of the 80th Congress, the worst in the nation's history. It was that Congress which killed price controls prematurely and victimized the nation's consumers. It was that same Congress which adopted the Taft-Hartley Act and victimized the nation's wage earners.

We must not let history repeat itself this year. Again, as election day approaches, a tide of over-confidence is sweeping the nation because of victory in the Korean war.

It would be well for all of us to remember that the Korean conflict was merely the first skirmish between the forces of democracy and the communist aggressors who threaten the peace of the world.

The real show-down is yet to come. The defense emergency is just beginning. There are still many important domestic and international problems to be solved. We must not—we dare not—entrust them to a new Congress elected only by a minority of the American people.

If the great mass of American voters stay away from the polls on Nov. 7, an isolationist Congress could be elected. That would be fatal to the continuation of an effective foreign policy, based upon close collaboration of all free nations to defend themselves against Soviet aggression.

Our home problems are equally pressing. Already inflation is rampant. The cost of living is going up every day. Unchecked profiteering is taking a cruel toll of the wage earner's family budget.

You—and only you—can do something about this disgraceful situation. You can elect congressmen and senators pledged to enact immediate excess profits taxes and price controls.

But if you neglect to vote, the chances are that Congress will neglect you and allow the profiteers to continue their plunder.

Inevitably, the defense emergency will require all of us to tighten our belts and make real sacrifices. I firmly believe that the American people are ready to do their part, to make the sacrifice necessary in order to safeguard their freedom and preserve world peace.

But fair play demands that there should be equality of sacrifice, that the burden of higher taxes and emergency controls should be equitably distributed and administered. And that is what you want, you must vote for it. It is up to you to go to the polls and cast your ballots for candidates in whom you have confidence. Your government is what you make it.

To keep government of the people and for the people, the wage earners of America must exercise fully their right to vote.

Remember, voting is everybody's job.
Remember, every vote counts.
Remember to vote on Nov. 7.

Just One Vote

(Reprinted below is text of one of the "Get Out the Vote" advertisements prepared by Leo Burnett Co., Inc., for the Advertising Council as a part of the American Heritage Foundation program. AFL President William Green is a member of the Foundation's committee to pick the city, county, civic organizations which did the best jobs in getting out the vote on Nov. 7. YOU won't safford not to vote.)

Frequently, especially around election time, you hear this question,

"What Good Will ONE Vote Do?"

Of course, hundreds of elections, small and large, have swung on a single ballot.

Here is some really big stuff when just one vote turned the tide.

The Declaration of Independence

Our American charter of liberty, the Resolution of the Declaration of Independence, was passed by the Continental Congress, July 2, 1776, when Caesar Rodney, delegate from Delaware, rode from his cloistered home 80 miles on horseback through a stormy night to cast just one vote—putting his state on the side of freedom and helping assure unanimous approval of all the colonies.

Saves a President . . . Elects a President

Andrew Johnson, only U. S. President to be impeached, kept the Presidency by just one vote. The U. S. Senate, sitting as a court of impeachment, voted 35 for conviction and 19 for acquittal—just one vote less than the two-thirds majority necessary for conviction.

Rutherford B. Hayes was elected President by one vote. His election was contested, and it was referred to an electoral commission. The commission gave the contested electoral votes to Hayes by just one vote, 8 to 7. Whereupon, Congress declared Hayes elected by just one vote, 185 to 184.

Incidentally, the man who cast that deciding vote for Hayes, as Indiana Senator, won his place in Congress by just one vote. And that one vote was cast by a man who, though desperately ill, insisted on being taken to the polls to cast that one ballot.

Votes for Women by Just One Vote

In 1918, woman suffrage in the U. S. passed the House of Representatives with just one vote to spare. When the bill was finally passed in the Senate two years later, it passed by just two votes. (It passed both houses of Congress the next year.)

In World Affairs Today

But don't think the importance of just one vote, or a few votes, applies only to the past.

This very year, the present Government in England is maintained in office by just three votes. They must hold 313 seats in Parliament for an absolute majority—it has barely enough for day-to-day business with 316.

Yes, France, too, was check ride away from the past and turn up a lot of cases where just one vote tipped over or set up somebody's applecart.

Every Vote Is Equal

"My vote doesn't count" is pretty silly stuff, isn't it? Your vote counts just as much as the President's. Your vote is the equal of anybody else's in hiring or firing a man in public office. If your vote is used. Yet in the last presidential election, 45 million qualified voters failed to go to the polls.

No matter how you vote, doesn't it give you a feeling, good-neighborly and blue American feeling when you've marked your "X" and step out of that voting booth?

Green Calls on Every Member To be Patriot and Vote Nov. 7

By WILLIAM GREEN
President, American Federation of Labor

Washington.—The key to freedom is the right of people to vote in accordance with their own conscience.

At a time when many millions of human beings are denied this elementary right and have been stripped of all their freedoms, the American people can safeguard their own freedom by making certain to vote in the congressional elections on Nov. 7.

This year, more than ever before, the right to vote here in America is more than a right—it is a duty, a duty which no citizen can safely afford to neglect.

Your government needs your vote to guide it in the critical days and months ahead. The vital decisions which the next Congress will be called upon to make must be your decisions, the decisions of the majority of the American people. If only a minority takes the trouble to vote, you will lose control over your own government and our whole democratic process will be endangered.

Let us consider briefly the great issues at stake. Are we to safeguard world peace or be plunged into another and more terrible world war? Should America build up a really effective defense program, or invite attack by communist aggressors by neglecting the national safety?

Are we going to let profiteers take advantage of the consuming public in this emergency period or should the government invoke prior controls and exact excess profits taxes?

Should Congress repeal the Taft-Hartley Act or keep American labor shackled with its oppressive provisions?

These are important questions—questions that affect each and every one of you.

Are you going to let other people decide them for you or are you going to insist on having your own say by voting Nov. 7?

It seems inconceivable to me that any patriotic American citizen can neglect to vote at a time when our boys are being drafted for military training. Their future and their safety will depend upon those elected to the next Congress.

To protect your own family, your own home and the free American way of life, it is your duty to go to the polls on election day and to vote for candidates you can trust.

As president of the American Federation of Labor, I urge all of you to perform that patriotic duty.

Hollywood Stars Join In Call for Vote of 55,000,000

Hollywood, Calif.—Stars of the screen and entertainment world joined in a nationwide radio appeal Oct. 30 for 55,000,000 Americans to vote on Nov. 7.

"It will be a great day if 55,000,000 persons vote on Nov. 7," the announcer said opening the program sponsored by the AFL Labor's League for Political Education on the American Broadcasting Company network.

Georgie Jessel emceed the fast-moving show with Keenan Wynn, J. Carroll Naish and Gene Kelly giving effective performances on the theme of why every American should vote on Nov. 7.

Janet Richards sang and brief appeals to vote were made by Dinah Shore, Eddie Cantor and Joseph Hurst.

AFL President William Green and Secretary-Treasurer George Meany spoke from Washington and Joseph Keenan, director LLPE, from Chicago.

Gregory Peck, originally scheduled to participate, was unable to do so because of illness.

Participating AFL unions contributed to the show.

Model CLU Meeting Is Set at Illinois U.

Champaign-Urbana, Ill.—Second annual conference for representatives of local unions affiliated with the CIO will be held Dec. 8 and 9 at the University of Illinois Robert Allerton Estate, Monticello.

Arranged by the Illinois State Federation of Labor, the 2-day conference will be conducted by the University's Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, and Division of University Extension.

Last year's conference attracted national and state AFL leaders and CIO representatives. The central labor body in Illinois was first to conference was held like a joint central labor union set up. Discussion groups acted as committees on labor education, community activities, legislation, public relations, and working with the schools.

The Illinois federation requested that this year's conference be handled in much the same way. There will be further discussion and analysis of similar problems—of ways of making central bodies more effective.

Featured speaker will be James A. Townsend, president of the AFL Metal Trades Department with which union a dozen AFL-CIO affiliated international unions are affiliated. Mr. Townsend's topic will be "What Will Wartime Controls Mean for the Labor Movement?"

Reuben G. Soderstrom, president Illinois State Federation of Labor, has also been invited to speak.

HOLD LABOR SCHOOL

Philadelphia.—Leaders of the AFL National Federation of Post Office Clerks sponsored a labor school and classes meeting each Monday night in West Philadelphia High School for public speaking, leadership training, labor history, human relations, how to conduct and participate in a union meeting.

SIGN STATE CLERKS

Seattle, Wash.—The AFL Retail Clerks International Association has just concluded contracts covering the employes of state-owned liquor stores in a contract that has been signed between Local 1646 and the Washington State Liquor Board providing $10 a month pay raises for regular employes.

BARUCH RECALLS GOMPERS

New York.—The New Leader will publish soon "My Reminiscences of Samuel Gompers," by Bernard Baruch. Unions may order copies of the issue at 5 cents per copy in bundles of 10 or more from the New Leader, 7 East 15th St., New York N. Y.

Asia ICFTU Spokesman

Brussels.—Dhyan Mungat (left), seaman from India, advised by J. H. Oldenbroek, secretary-general International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, that he has been selected to head the ICFTU information and advisory center in Singapore.

Indian Is Picked For Singapore Post

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent of AFL News Service

New York.—Dhyan Mungat, a seaman from India, was on the high seas when he learned that he was chosen from Asiatic waters to Europe when he was handed a radiogram informing him of his appointment to a major post in the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

The young man who will take charge of the ICFTU's Information and Advisory Center, when it is opened soon in communist-beleaguered Singapore, was general secretary of the Maritime Union of India, founded in 1942.

He helped organize 95 percent of India's merchant navy officers. Since December 1949 he has been acting president of the All-India Seafarers Federation. For the past two years he has been honorary secretary of the International Transport Workers Federation Office for India and Pakistan.

He was adviser to the International allies.

Labor Organization's Maritime Conference at Seattle in June 1946 and delegate to the ITF Seafarers' Conference in London a few months later.

Married and the father of 2 children, Mr. Mungat got his training at a Bombay technological school. He had reached the rank of second officer before he took his first trade union post.

RECOGNIZED

Washington. — Serafino Romualdi, AFL inter-American representative in South America, announced that the Colombian government has granted legal recognition to the noncommunist Confederation of Labor of Colombia.

AFL President William Green asked the Colombian government last July 31 in a letter sent through Ambassador Eduardo Zuleta-Angel to recognize the noncommunist organization which is affiliated with the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

Without the decree of legal recognition, the AFL-supported organization was unable to function. Recognition had been blocked by an attempt of communists, who had seeded, to keep their old labor organization alive.

Many AFL Unions to Take Time Off On Election Day, Nov. 7, to Vote

Washington. — Thousands of AFL machinists will take all or part of Nov. 7, election day, as a holiday in order to cast a ballot.

All of them will act under provisions of contracts permitting such time off or state laws which authorize employers to grant time off to vote.

In Chicago over 16,000 members of the Construction and General Laborers District Council voted to take a half-day off to vote on Nov. 7.

In 25 states workers are guaranteed time off to vote by state law.

The official policy of the AFL, reaffirmed at the 1950 convention in Houston, urges state federations of labor "to apply all practical means possible to establish election day as a

ASK WAGE BOOST

Albany, N. Y.—Requests for new wage increases will be submitted to U. S. and Canadian manufacturers in the pulp and paper industry by the 7 top AFL unions in the industry, the Paper Makers and the Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, representing a total of 190,000 workers for whom a pact renewal will mean a raise for 200,000 more.

ASK GOMPERS SCHOOL

Toledo, O.—The Toledo Central Labor Union plans to establish a labor education to name a new school to be conducted in that city's "Samuel Gompers School" in "recognition of the untiring effort put forth by Samuel Gompers for free education during his lifetime and continued by the labor movement of today."

Buy Independence Bonds.

P. R. COVERED

Washington.—On Nov. 1, 1950, provisions of the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act, which applies to government manufacture and supply contracts for more than $10,000, became applicable to contracts performed in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

The act does not provide a statutory minimum wage, but requires that employers engaged in performance of covered contracts be paid not less than the minimum wage determined by the Secretary of Labor to be prevailing in the industry.

STUDY PUBLIC RELATIONS

Waukegan, Ill.—Improving organized labor's public relations on the local level will be the subject of a one-day conference, conducted at the request of the Lake County AFL Central Trades and Labor Council, Percy Snow, president.

America Owes Debt To Samuel Gompers

By ANDREW C. ROSS, S. J.
Assistant Professor University of San Francisco Labor-Management School
(From the U. S. Labor-Management Panel)

If we wish to find the man most responsible for making our capitalistic free enterprise system acceptable to the rank and file of the American people we don't turn to business or politics but to labor. Samuel Gompers did more for America than any industrialist, such as Carnegie, Gould, Hanna, Rockefeller, or any politician, such as Roosevelt, Hoover, Coolidge or Wilson.

Throughout history every grass-root protest against a corrupt political power or unjust economic system has usually ended in bloodshed and tyranny. Most reformers have been either idealists or men of violence. In America we have been more fortunate than the rest of the world.

At the end of the 19th century the workers were growing restless and threatening under an obviously ruthless industrial system, but this mass movement was not to end in bloodshed and violence. In America this movement came under the influence of a man endowed with a hatred for violence in all its forms.

Sam Gompers was not hypnotized by any pie-in-the-sky socialism. Mr. Gompers was an individualist, ready to meet the ruthless individuals of industry in their own ballwick—wages and profits.

Gompers formulated a bread and butter philosophy of labor. He would condemn first our capitalism but like a hard-headed business man would use it to the best advantage of the workers.

He sold the free enterprise system to the American worker. He taught labor a way of life within that system. It is difficult to find anyone in the 20th century who has done more to preserve and foster the American way of life and to advance the standard of living than Samuel Gompers.

The Federation of Labor is first indebtedness to Mr. Gompers.

Business should take warning that organized labor is not to be fought as an enemy. The American business-managerial class can thank Gompers for having contributed in preserving our mixed-capitalistic-free-enterprise system of economics.

And everyone else can ought to give thanks not only for higher wages, shorter hours and more security, but for the fact that all these were achieved without sacrificing freedom or human dignity to a regimented economy.

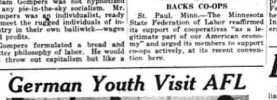
In 1924, the year he died, Gompers said: "I have been jealous that the American labor movement should retain the character of a crusade for human justice."

May labor leaders never forget it.

BACKS CO-OPS

St. Paul, Minn.—The Minnesota Federation of Labor reaffirmed its support of cooperatives "as a legitimate part of our American economy" and urged its members to support co-ops actively, at its recent convention here.

German Youth Visit AFL



Washington.—AFL President William Green is flanked by Miss Inge Hauptmann, Darmstedtorf, and Miss Ruth Eva Koehn, Berlin, two of a group of maenn, Darmstedtorf, and Miss Ruth Eva Koehn, Berlin, two of a group of German trade union youth leaders to visit AFL headquarters during a 90-day study tour of United States. Others in the photo include AFL International Representative George P. Delaney; Florian Ammer, Augsburg; Karl-Heinz Baesche, Kassel; Willy Bopp, Munich; Theodor Falk, Georg Gebhardt, Erwin Schoenleben, Nuernberg; Erich Grohs, Schweinfurt-on-Main; Adalbert Hoehne, Bremen; Eberhard Punierski, Schongau.

Lehman Symbol of Nov. 7 Fight

New York.—AFL President William Green called the voters of New York to reelect Sen. Herbert H. Lehman on Nov. 7 "because the result will vitally affect the future policies of our country."

Mr. Green said the entire nation is watching Sen. Lehman's contest with Lt. Gov. Joseph R. Hanley.

Mr. Green called Mr. Hanley "a doubtful risk."

Sen. Lehman's fight against the reactionary moneyed interests of America is symbolic and typical of the experiences of every liberal member of the Senate and House supported by the AFL and other progressive groups.

"Sen. Lehman is a statesman," Mr. Green said.

"We all know what he stands for and can ably be carried out his policies. He is progressive, sound, sincere and courageous. He has a record far beyond any other candidate, he is capable of giving the people of New York effective representation in the United States Senate. His reelection would prove a blessing for America.

"So far as organized labor is concerned, repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act will be a paramount issue in the next Congress.

"The great army of union workers in New York State have no doubts as to how Sen. Lehman stands on this issue. He was elected a year ago on a platform calling for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act and he has worked hard in the Senate to free labor from the shackles of this oppressive law. In this campaign he has reiterated his unalterable opposition to say that he fight for repeal until it is won. Labor has complete faith in his sincerity and in his friendship.

"There are other important issues, too numerous to analyze in detail. On housing, on social security, on decent minimum wages, on federal aid to education, on civil rights and on every other major program for the benefit of the great masses of our people, the record of Sen. Lehman is crystal clear. He is a champion of the cause of progress, a loyal and dependable supporter of government action to improve the American way of life, a life-long fighter for the downtrodden."

Japanese Visitor

Washington.—Muto Takeo (right), chairman Japan Federation of Coal Mine Workers Union, discusses union problems with AFL International Representative George P. Delaney on visit to AFL headquarters.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Samuel Gompers said:
American labor has kept its trust with democracy and the principles of liberty and justice. It yields to no person or institution in its fidelity and devotion to our republic.

Green Says AFL Primary Task: Organize at Home and Abroad

Says We Hew to Gompers' Programs in Our Organizing, Politics and Sphere of International Relations

Milwaukee, Wis. — AFL President William Green told the Samuel Gompers Centennial Celebration that the AFL's primary task is to organize the millions of workers whose rights are disregarded because they lack the strength of organization.

His speech highlighted this city's tribute to the 100th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Gompers, born Jan. 27, 1850, in London, England. The AFL opened a year-long celebration of the event last Jan. 5 and is seeking to organize 1,000,000 new members this year.

In his first public remarks on labor unity since the Houston convention, Mr. Green said the AFL is "looking forward to the early return of our brothers of the International Association of Machinists" and "we have grounds for hope that eventual unity may emerge from discussions" with the Congress of Industrial Organizations on merger.

Mr. Green said in part:

"We are here to mark the end of a century since the birth, in a foreign land, of a great American and a great trade unionist—Samuel Gompers.

"Gompers left us this directive: 'Wherever there is a wrong, there is work for us to do; wherever there is a right not yet attained, there is work for us to do.'

"And he left us this basic program for action, to carry out that task: 'Wherever trade unions are most firmly organized, there is the true spirit of the people most respected.'

"Our primary task is today—as it was yesterday and will be tomorrow—to organize the millions of workers whose rights are disregarded because they lack the strength of organization. As long as we continue to organize we move forward, though we suffer defeats and rebuffs in other fields of endeavor. When we cease to organize we begin to move backwards, though we gain unbroken victories along other lines.

"We must agitate where there is a passive acceptance of wrong; we must educate where there is ignorance as to the direction of right; and we must organize, organize, and continue to organize to make possible the abolition of wrong and the establishment of right.

"This is not a localized task—its scope is world-wide. Gompers was acutely conscious of labor's international responsibilities. He knew that the workers of one country could not advance far or for long if those of other countries lagged behind.

"If we are to prevail in the present-day struggle against wrong at home and abroad, we must strengthen and invigorate the forces of righteousness abroad. We must say to the workers of every country where trade unionism is weak or in danger, as Gompers said: 'Join with us, and it will be for good.' It is therefore singularly fitting that this Gompers centennial year should fall during the inaugural year of the new International Association of Free Trade Unions, which the American Federation of Labor was instrumental in founding to carry out this aim.

"On the organizing front at home, we have set out to deliver assistance, very practical and concrete tribute to the memory of Gompers, that we pledged ourselves to a new and more energetic campaign, to bring not one million new members into the house of labor, but two million, and it will be the birth of the master builder.

"This is no easy task, but it is nothing as compared to the magnitude of the tasks which Gompers and his colleagues undertook. The material resources which are available to us today. This federation did not grow to its present estate through the guidance of difficult assignments, and it will not continue to grow if we seek them now. Our efforts must be equal to the size of the task.

"Every member of the American Federation of Labor should feel personal responsibility in this undertaking. It cannot succeed unless each does his part. For example, the man who has enjoyed the fruits of collective action recognizes his duty to pass on the message of trade unionism to his unorganized neighbor, it cannot fail.

"The very essence of trade unionism is unity of action and unity of purpose. Disunity in the ranks of labor is a startling contradiction of all of those articles of faith which Gompers espoused. It confounds our friends and delights our enemies.

"The forces of reaction are never stronger nor more dangerous than when they are able to breed distrust and antagonism between union and union, worker and worker, union member and union official. Internal division dissipates our strength and provides grist for the mills of our adversaries.

"Justice to the memory of Gompers demands that we do everything in our power to seal those breaches where they exist and to prevent their occurrence where they threaten. Rip our own sake as well as for his, we must present a united front to the challenges that face us in this crucial hour.

"We have made a great deal of progress toward a greater degree of unity between us, and it is only fair to say that we are now closer to final ideal than at any time in many years. We are now looking forward to the early return to the American Federation of Labor of our brothers of the International Association of Machinists. I have always felt that they belonged with us. It will be good to have them with us again in substance as well as in spirit.

"Progress has been made in our conversations with the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and we have grounds for hope that eventual unity may emerge from these discussions. We are already working together in the field of foreign affairs, and in political action we are united in support of the true friends of labor and in our opposition to its enemies. Candidates for public office who have flaunted the rights of labor must now face the single-minded wrath of labor. They can lay no claim to the favor of any section of labor.

"Labor has learned from bitter experience that its only protection against political attack lies in united, militant and aggressive political action. Those who oppose our aims will take over any area of influence which we neglect. The Taft-Hartley law was placed on the statute books through the political action of our adversaries. The only way in which it can be removed is through more vigorous effective political action by ourselves.

"Whether we like it or not, we live in a political environment. The state of the political environment always influences the results of our activities in the field of collective bargaining. The ability to carry out our primary aims of organization and the attainment of advancement of our members. It is our duty to see to it that the state of the political environment is favorable to the attainment of those ends. We may rest assured that it will be helpful if we, in democracy, live up to our full responsibilities.

"The working people of America are its most numerous group of citizens. In a democracy, they are entitled to representation in Congress and in the state legislatures by men their legitimate aims and aspirations. They should be able to choose men who have devoted themselves to the interests of labor, and not those of corporations.

"They are to enjoy the rights and privileges of a democracy, and they must live up to their responsibilities. We must use our voting strength as well as our influence for a purpose. We must use it wisely. Here again Gompers is our guide. He urged all campaigners for guidance. As he said: 'We are of the political party of labor and not for a party but we must make political power that has the political power and that we have the right to, otherwise labor will become an impotent weapon.'

"Gompers urged labor to vote is neither against a union man nor a good citizen. We can do more afford to vote for the best candidate for a job in the ranks than we can to have free riders in the ship who accept the benefits of the efforts of their fellow workers but contribute nothing to those efforts.

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VOTE COULD BREAK REACTIONARY BLOC

Omaha, Neb.—AFL President William Green made his only pre-election day prediction here.

"I am convinced that the defeat of Senator Taft in Ohio, Senator Donnell in Missouri and Senator Milliken in Colorado will break the back of the reactionary bloc in the U. S. Senate.

"I am certain that those candidates will be defeated if a full vote is cast."

BEEP PREFERRED

Washington.—The demand for beef as one of the best preferred foods in the household shopping list will probably remain strong for some time, as full employment at good wages seems to be in the picture for this country, says the U. S. Agriculture Department.

"UNION MAID"

"All right—so it'll be a fair election, we'll get a ladder!"

NEW UNION MAID SERIES

Washington.—This is one of the 6 cartoons in the new "Union Maid" set distributed by the AFL News Service

Trygve Lie Sees More UN Help Needed in Retarded Nations

By FRED E. RUSLANDER

(Special to Newark, N. J., Labor Herald—Distributed by International Labor Press of America)

New York.—The Future of the United Nations will depend largely on getting the mistakes of yesterday, and saving the international machinery to make "peace itself give proof that it is the best alternative to war."

Thus Trygve Lie, who since inception of UN has filled post of secretary-general, summed up his convictions in the first exclusive interview ever given a representative of labor press in America.

The UN secretary-general made an exception to his general rule only because he, himself, is a member and an official of the trade union movement, as the Social Democrat party, control the government of Norway.

"Peace must never become an empty peace," he declared. "Economic, social and economic problems must be solved without further delay. The increasing number of justified demands are being presented to the UN security after country and, more particularly, from each of the 60 nations which have recently gained their independence are still waiting to become independent.

"Centuries of neglect are piling up on our conscience. Populous countries are today justly characterized as 'under-developed or nondeveloped areas.' It is high time to do so and to know what might happen.

The United Nations preliminary program to help development of underdeveloped areas and countries economically and the means, placed at disposal by the member states, have already made it possible to make a start in this direction.

"But," Mr. Lie sighted, "much more is necessary than what has hitherto been planned, if this project is to be of real use to mankind."

The day of this interview followed the one upon which he had been vetoed

Trygve Lie

by Russia for another term in office. That he has frequently been accused of being "pro-American" by the Soviet titles, is ironical.

Mr. Lie, indeed, had dealings with the Russians. In 1921 he was secretary of a delegation from Norway to trade unions to the Soviet trade union. The Norwegian Labor Party, impressed with the results of the Russian revolution, had established close connections with the Kremlin. Lie was very young at the time and was much impressed with Lenin.

Ten years later he was appointed legal advisor to the Norwegian Trade Union Federation, secretary and political lawyer of Norway's labor movement. Later he was elected to the UN by the communists out of top posts in the Norwegian labor movement.

He believes, with Samuel Gompers, that the communist apostles of hatred cannot flourish in any land where there is a strong, militant and responsible labor movement. In Norway, the trade unions have been potent forces for years, and today no fundamental internal or foreign issue is ever decided contrary to the views of organized labor.

Since 1935 the majority of the cabinet, including Trygve Lie, have been active trade unionists. There is no illiteracy in Norway. There is no poverty—there is no great wealth. There is stability and it is one of the few spots on earth where the personnel of the prosecutor can find sanctuary.

This was extended even to Leon Trotsky until he violated his agreement by trying to organize, from Norway, a "Fourth International." He kept creating trouble until he was finally expelled by order of the then Norwegian Minister of Justice, a fellow by the name of Trygve Lie.

When he was 15 years old, Mr. Lie joined a labor group affiliated with the Labor Youth Secretary, the exercise being that he helped the workers in their schools. Eight years later, in 1919, the Miners and General Workers Union, which took in office workers and white-collar employes, issued him a card which he still holds

8 Million Children Get Hot Luncheons

Washington.—When the national school lunch program was begun 15 years ago, it was operated largely on federal funds, and served only a small percentage of children. Today, it is something of a national institution, bringing hot lunches and milk almost meals to 8 million youngsters in 54,000 schools—with states putting up most of the money to finance it.

The AFL has indorsed the federal school lunches program.

The cost of feeding these school youngsters during the 1949-50 school year has been estimated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture at $733 million. Federal contributions totaled $65 million in cash and $55 million in donated commodities. States put up the difference. The major part of the foods served were bought locally by schools which operate and running to $181 million—about three-quarters of the value of all foods used.

School lunch programs are operated on a nonprofit basis and meals are served to pupils at low cost. Youngsters from low-income families are served free of charge, or at reduced cost, depending on individual circumstances. All meals are prepared to meet high nutritional standards set by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

School experience is that hot lunches contribute greatly to health and well-being of pupils. Young minds perk up after a hot lunch. Report cards are improved. Attendance is better, fewer children are absent with colds, and disciplinary problems are lessened.

WIN STRIKE

Washington.—H. L. Mitchell, president AFL National Farm Labor Union, said that 20,000 cotton pickers in California won a wage increase of 50c per 100 pounds for picking the cotton crop, equivalent to $1 per day for each worker.

To win the pay boost union members were forced to strike approximately 3 weeks in some areas but wherever the wage reached the $2.50 figure, the union members returned to work.

AFL Asks Break For Farm Workers

Washington.—AFL President William Green asked a fair deal for the nation's farm workers, especially the migratories.

He sent the request to President Truman's Commission on Migratory Labor, 1400 Pennsylvania Ave., which has just concluded nation-wide hearings on the subject.

The AFL witness gave testimony before the commission which is preparing a summary report for Dec 15 for use by Mr. Truman in assembling his message to the new Congress.

President Green recommended that all social welfare legislation be amended so that farm workers are covered under the National Labor Relations Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, and all aspects of the Social Security program, including unemployment compensation, old age and survivors insurance, and workmen's compensation.

Asserting that the problems of migratory workers have always been a subject of deep concern to the AFL, Mr. Green said in part:

"Your investigation of the problem would have been significant at any time, but it assumes particular importance during the present period of defense mobilization, because shifts from peacetime production to production for military purposes have always been accompanied by considerable migration.

"Most migratory workers are employed in agriculture. There are perhaps 1 million migrant workers who move in the primary course of their income from farming and related activities. These migratory workers are subject to all of the many legislative and economic conditions which have been imposed against farm workers.

"A comparatively new, but extremely serious, factor in this entire problem has been introduced with the importation on a large scale of workers from outside the continental United States.

"It is neither common sense nor sound economics to think that the poverty of farm workers in a foreign country can be alleviated by importing them to this country where there is already an ample supply of available farm workers."

Following is a digest of Mr. Green's recommendations "to meet the problems of migrant labor:

1. Eliminate all legislative discrimination against farm workers.

2. Require Federal licensing of contractors furnishing migrant workers to farm operators, and empower Interstate Commerce Commission to regulate interstate transportation of migrant workers.

3. Expand the Federal Farm Labor Committee, advisory to the Farm Placement Service of U. S. Employment Service, to include an equal number of labor and public members with the present farm members.

4. Provide federal grants-in-aid to counties, states and other local communities to provide community facilities—such as health facilities and public assistance where needed for migrant workers.

5. Improve educational facilities by (a) prohibiting child employment school terms in rural areas; (b) prohibiting employment of children for employment in agriculture; (c) provide federal aid to improve rural schools; (d) establish mobile schools for migrants from which federal funds where other facilities are inadequate.

6. Request Public Housing Administration to set up a division equipped with adequate funds and staffed by competent personnel to complete as quickly as possible the program under the Housing Act of 1949 providing for the construction of the 25,000 public housing be used for building low-rent housing for low-income families in rural nonfarm communities.

7. The shortage of agricultural workers, (a) give labor organizations of farm workers in their negotiations with Mexican consultative status to international agreements; (b) do not permit foreign workers unless an actual or clearly impending shortage of domestic workers has been conclusively shown; (c) do not enforce contracts which result from an international agreement for importation of workers unless it can make it unlawful to employ any alien who has entered this country illegally.

(Copies of the text of Mr. Green's statement may be obtained from the AFL, 901 Mass. Ave. N.W.)

Green Charges Profiteers Rampant As Corporations Gouge on Earnings

Omaha, Neb.—Profiteers are running rampant because Congress failed to enact an excess profits tax, AFL President William Green told the convention of the AFL American Federation of Grain Millers.

"Withholding taxes on individual incomes have been substantially increased," Mr. Green said. "Yet to date we have only the vaguest of promises that some day, when it gets around to it, Congress may possibly enact an excess profits tax."

On the day Mr. Green spoke, a report from New York showed that corporation profits for the third quarter of 1950 were 81 percent above the same period in 1949.

In the second quarter of 1950, before the Korean war, profits were running 43 percent ahead of the 1949 period. The third quarter gain of 81 percent came in spite of a hike in the corporation income tax from 38 to 42 percent.

Profits of 486 corporations for July-August-September 1950 totaled $1,-711,000,000.

"With profiteers running rampant," Mr. Green said, "with the cost of living shooting higher every day, with the purchasing power of the wage earner's dollar shrinking steadily and with wage rates lagging far behind the inflation of prices, the workers of America are caught in a dangerous squeeze.

Mr. Green expressed hope a new liberal Congress would deal forthrightly with these problems and Communist aggression.

IAM Sets Dec. 1-31 For AFL Referendum

Washington.—The International Association of Machinists set Dec. 1-31 for a vote by its more than 600,000 members on reaffiliation with the American Federation of Labor.

The date was set in pursuant to a unanimous recommendation of the IAM executive council that the Machinists return to the AFL.

In a communication addressed to the IAM membership everywhere, President A. J. Hayes and members of the IAM executive council said:

"We earnestly request that the entire membership of the IAM support this unanimous action of their executive council by an overwhelming vote in the interests of trade union unity.

"Our reaffiliation with the AFL is, in our opinion, a constructive way to work for this desirable objective. We pledge you our full support of the program which is certain to unify all segments of the American labor movement.

"It has been achieved in the political field due to necessity, and it is highly essential in the economic field and, in our opinion, represents the aspirations of every sincere trade unionist, not only in the IAM but in every organized group in our nation.

The IAM acted after receiving complete agreement with the AFL on "a fair and equitable basis for reaffiliation."

START DRIVE

Chicago.—Acting President Michael Fox of the AFL Railway Employes Department has alerted railway brotherhoods to make "every effort—one project" the enactment of legislation by Congress establishing a union shop on the nation's railroads.

Officials and members are urged to contact their senators to support the measure before Congress returns in November for its sask passage of S. 3295 and H.R. 7789.

White Collar Parley Call Sent by ICFTU

Brussells—The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions will hold a world conference of white collar workers at ICFTU headquarters here April 16-21, 1951.

Dates for the first global gathering of "white collar" workers were set at a meeting of the ICFTU's new international consultative committee for professional, administrative, commercial and supervisory employes.

The following categories will be invited to send delegations:

1. Teaching. 2. Entertainment. 3. Writing. 4. Health services (medical practitioners, dentists, chemists, opticians, nursing, hospital staffs, etc.). 5. Public and civil service employees. 6. Industry, commerce and communications (executive, technical, clerical and administrative staffs).

The conference will consider conditions of employment, organizational problems, and establishment of an international trade secretariat for non-manual white collar workers.

COURSES OFFERED

Champaign Urbana, Ill. — Correspondence courses in labor education have been developed by the University of Illinois Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, according to Labor Movement in the United States, and "Labor and the Law" are listed in the fall catalog of correspondence courses available to anyone and no academic prerequisites are required.

New Jersey Fights Strait-Jacket Law

Newark, N. J.—The New Jersey Federation of Labor charged that moves to favor the New Jersey Public Utility Anti-Strike Law are misguided in their contention that the law serves the public interest by attempting to avoid hardships resulting from strikes in public utilities.

The federation maintained that "the validity of such statutes is refuted by the facts, for this law, when theoretically would prevent strikes in public utilities, has had precisely the opposite effect in actual practice."

The federation asks the state assembly to repeal the law.

"Public utility employes in this state have been organized for decades," the AFL said in a statement. "Yet there was no major strike in any utility in this state and there was absolutely no hardship resulting from any such strike for more than 20 years prior to the adoption of the law.

"Since the adoption of the law we have had more than a dozen serious public utility strikes, all of which have had some unfortunate effect upon the convenience of the public.

"Why have these strikes occurred? We contend solely because of the law. The way to resolve strikes in public utilities is to repeal this law."

U. S. Worker Unions Seek $630 Increase

Washington: The AFL Government Employes' Council will ask the short session of Congress to approve a bill for a $630 annual increase for all graded federal civil service employees, and a 10% increase for postal employees, with corresponding increases for hourly paid employes affected.

The increase is intended to offset cost of living that has steadily accelerated for the past seven months. The council which comprises 24 AFL unions of government employees and representi. 600,000 civil service workers was in complete accord in bring the opening gun to obtain salary readjust.

Congress will be told that the $630 annual increase would be based on cost of living increase and may be subject to adjustment and revision during back to the beginning of the Korean war and possibly to January 1, 1950.

FRANKEL NAMED

New York.—Leo Frankel, director of special events and public relations of radio station WFDR, has been named general manager effective immediately.

Frederick F. Umbey, president of the WFDR Broadcasting Corporation, announced that Guy Gray, chief announcer, was named production manager and the resignation of David Carrie as program manager was accepted.

WFDR, New York City, is one of a few pure FM stations operated as a public service by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the others being KFMV, Los Angeles, and WCHL, Chattanooga.

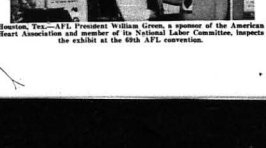
STUDY NOISE

Washington. — AFL unions were listed among experts invited to a series of 5 lectures and discussion programs on noise, color and other factors in the relation of environment to work at the Library of Congress, Nov. 6-10.

Luther H. Evans, librarian of Congress, and David Lynn, architect of the Capitol, announced that the main environmental subjects to be studied include sound control, illumination, ventilation, color engineering and safety.

Buy Independence Bonds.

Inspects Heart Exhibit



Houston, Tex.—AFL President William Green, a sponsor of the American Heart Association and member of its National Labor Committee, inspects the exhibit at the 60th AFL convention.